

Water Valley starts rebuilding

By Tim Nicholas

Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief Task Force members had stopped in Coffeeville to get gas. They had just completed a week of serving more than 10,000 hot meals to victims and workers in Water Valley where an Easter eve tornado had scooped out half the North Mississippi town of 5,000.

Task Force member Ed Bailey of Brandon joked to a man waiting in line to fill up after the team's motor home, "I guess you thought we'd take all day."

"No," the stranger remarked, "I know where you've been and what you've been doing in Water Valley... and I want to pay for your gas." The man insisted. And his donation was added to another \$1,260 given without the asking by people dropping by the 40-foot combination mobile kitchen, communication center, and information booth.

Mississippi Baptists' disaster ministry, operated by the Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, was in operation only hours after the tornado struck about 5:30, Saturday, April 21. Ham operator Charles Austin got into town and spent the night at the National Guard Armory. He laid groundwork for the arrival of the disaster van.

Jim Didlake, on site coordinator of the unit, and consultant in the Brotherhood Department, managed the unit and worked with other disaster agencies in coordinating help for victims. "We have never felt such warmth and acceptance before," said Didlake about agency cooperation. Cooperating with Civil Defense, the Baptist ministry was given "about 99 percent" of the food it cooked and served by Red Cross. And the unit prepared hot meals for the Sal-

vation Army to deliver.

As the mayor, Hamric Henry, and city government asked for an interfaith group to be established, Didlake was invited to sit in on the organizational meeting. First Church Pastor Guy Reedy was named chairman.

The interfaith group, which has employed a secretary, Michele Howie, is serving "mainly as information giver," says Reedy, "where they can get or give help, and we tell them where to go to get clothing, food and lodging. And then we are controlling the fund that is coming in as needs continue after the withdrawal of other helping groups."

The Baptist disaster unit tallied 10,844 hot meals in its visit to Water Valley. And another 2,000 snack, coffee, and cola "customers" were served. About 110 volunteers from area churches helped in the serving and delivery of hot food. And 20

members of the task force were on the job during the week.

First Church, Water Valley, was hardest hit among Baptist churches in the series of tornadoes that struck that Saturday. Reedy said this Monday that both educational buildings and the activity building were total losses and the sanctuary's future was not yet decided. Last Sunday the congregation met at First United Methodist Church at 8 a.m. and again that evening. The Episcopalians who lost their church, too, also met there.

Reedy said that First Church would be having its Easter this weekend with a resurrection service in the morning and cantata Sunday evening in the Methodist church.

He reported the members are surveying every possible vacant building in Water Valley for a temporary auditorium.

As for the town, he said, it is "digging out." Insurance companies are here, "reconstruction is already begun. The spirit of the town is absolutely magnificent."

Second Baptist Church in Water Valley escaped serious damage, according to Pastor Wayne Clayton. His church is providing child care workers for people going for assistance at the Disaster Assistance Center set up on the high school gym. Other areas hit by tornadoes had

Baptists at work, too. Riverside Association provided clothing for 11 families, about 35 people, around Charleston in the Paul community.

The families, most of whom were black, suffered wind damage with tin roofs blown off their homes. Some volunteers from Cherry Street Church in Riverside and from Mt. Pisgah in Tallahatchie helped put roofs back on the houses, according to missions director Jerry Gray. He said Paul Church Pastor Joe Young spent day and night for several days going from house to house to offer counseling.

The Philipp community in Tallahatchie, which had several losses of lives, had meals delivered from Water Valley and from Tutwiler Church. McDonald's in Clarksdale donated sausage and biscuits two mornings.

Said Gray of these outlying areas with damages, "Because the fact there are isolated cases, and no highly populated territory affected, it's going to be more difficult for the people to receive assistance."

Other ministries of the disaster unit in Water Valley included radio communications. One man came by Easter distraught. His wife was in the hospital, his house had been destroyed, and he couldn't find his two

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The Baptist Record

Committee on Boards releases 1984 report

By Dan Martin

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—The 1984 Southern Baptist Convention Committee on Boards report was released April 25, in accordance with a new bylaw requiring the report be released "at least 45 days" before the annual meeting of the 14.1 million member denomination.

The report, released by Chairman Charles G. Fuller, pastor of First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va., includes 215 nominations; 103 renominations of persons eligible to serve a second term; and 112 new trustees for the 20 national agencies and standing committees of the SBC.

Mississippian Tommy King of Monticello was renominated for a second term on the Executive Committee.

Messengers at the 1984 annual meeting of the SBC in Kansas City, Mo., must adopt the report before it is official.

Fuller said: "I think it is correct to say the committee worked harmoniously, but not necessarily unanimously in its selections. There were certain names offered in nomination which brought response from the group, both in support and not in support."

The committee chairman declined comment when asked about recent remarks by two leaders of the inerrancy movement in the SBC—Paul Pressler, an appeals court judge from Houston, and Paige Patterson, president of Criswell Center for Biblical Studies in Dallas—who told a

seminary audience they are pleased with the progress of a five-year campaign to place persons of their view of biblical inspiration on the denomination's boards of trustees.

The committee chairman added, however: "The report definitely shows a conservative flavor, but how it may or may not fit into some design or plan, I cannot say. I believe the sessions of the committee were free from any such design. . . ."

Fuller said the nomination of Pressler, a member of First Baptist Church, Houston, to an unexpired term on the SBC Executive Committee, has created the most interest and reaction.

"I have had quite a few comments about it (Pressler's nomination)," he said. "Mostly, it was more the reaction of others rather than a question about my reaction. I think, no question, this is THE nomination of the report and it has caused much interest and reaction."

Pressler, a vocal critic of the "liberal drift" of the convention and its institutions, particularly the six seminaries, was nominated to fill the unexpired term of C. Welton Gaddy, who became ineligible to serve after resigning his pastorate in Fort Worth, Texas, to become campus minister at Mercer University in Macon, Ga.

Pressler was nominated to serve the remaining three years of Gaddy's four-year term. Under current rules,

if Pressler is elected by messengers, he could serve the unexpired term of three years, plus two full four-year terms, for a total of 11 years as a member of the Executive Committee, which functions as the convention "ad interim."

While committee members were urged to protect the confidentiality of the report until it was released through Baptist Press, rumors of Pressler's nomination began to circulate almost immediately after adjournment of the committee, which met in Nashville, March 26-27.

Fuller said the committee adopted three "general policies" to govern its work: that it would not appoint current committee members; that members of the 1983 Committee on Committees would not be given trusteeships; and that persons eligible for renomination to second terms would be renominated unless there was a compelling reason not to do so.

"There were five exceptions to the policies," Fuller said. "Three were nominations of persons who were on the 1983 Committee on Committees, one from Florida, one from Missouri, and one from the District of Columbia."

The 1983 Committee on Committees, named by the convention president, selected the 1984 Committee on Boards, Commissions and Standing Committees. The general guideline, Fuller said, has been adopted in re-

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Two floors of the First Baptist Church, Water Valley were exposed to the elements after this wall was sheared off. (Photo by Chris Burrows.)

Friends divide over Robison-Milton Green

(Continued from page 2)

being said, but there are also excesses that must be guarded against. . . . He questions Green's system of biblical interpretation and belief that all of the Bible is assumed to be for all people at all times.

"While this sounds ideally and philosophically beautiful and true, it is also true that we must rightly divide the word. We do not bring Old Testament sacrifices and burnt offerings today. It is obvious that one must have some system of hermeneutics (system of biblical interpretation) by which we try to interpret the word. The seminar seems to suggest that this is not necessary and that everyone can become a law unto himself."

Milton Cunningham, pastor of the Westbury Church, Houston, said the church lost 75 to 100 members after a Green seminar in Houston last year. Many who went and subsequently left the church, he said, were told not to tell their pastor what they were being taught "because he won't understand."

Darrell Robinson, pastor of Dauphin Way Church, Mobile, Ala., and a member of the SBC Executive Committee, said he believes Robison to be a Pentecostal, although he is attracting crowds in some areas based on his old reputation as a Southern Baptist evangelist.

"I think they get a foothold that is detrimental to the local church. . . . Their direction and thrust is in line with Pentecostalism, teaching that healing is in the atonement, that it is a priority; majoring on demonism, casting out demons; and deliverance and so on."

Another Mobile pastor, Fred Wolfe, of Cottage Hill Baptist Church and immediate past president of the SBC Pastor's Conference, found no fault with Robison's emphasis.

"James was with us for one night and then in the crusade he did preach on healing and he did preach on deliverance, but I did not find any unusual or unbiblical emphasis in what he did," Wolfe said.

Emil Becker, pastor of First Church, Stephenville, Tex., attended a Green seminar last December. Becker complimented Green on his preparation and said he has no problem with some of the teachings in the area of the lordship of Christ, repentance from sin and confession of sin.

"I do take issue with his belief that every sickness is a demon and that every sickness can be cured by repenting of sin and exercising faith in God. This is not taught in the Bible, Becker said.

George Harris, pastor of Castle Hills Church, San Antonio, Tex., says the criticism of pastors and churches comes not so much from "what is taught but from what is caught." He added people come away from the seminars feeling that if their pastors don't agree with Green they've been blinded and deceived by demons.

Harris said Green makes remarks like, "You are responsible to God, not to some church boss." Harris added: "He (Green) just claims to be teach-

ing the Bible but every once in a while one of these little remarks comes across. That is what I mean by 'caught rather than taught'."

The Green-Robison movement has supporters, too.

Wallace Henley, pastor of McElwain Church, Birmingham, Ala., and current president of the Alabama Baptist Convention, said he has been concerned about the demonic ever since being on the Nixon White House staff during the Watergate days. "I believe demons cluster about power centers," he said.

Henley listened to tapes of Green's seminars conducted during a Jack Taylor conference at Merritt Island, Fla., and said he came to believe Green "perceives what's happening." He added he saw no evidence of Green criticizing the local church or undermining pastoral authority, but had gotten exactly the opposite opinion.

Henley said he believes much of the criticism of Green has come from inerrantists who are disturbed because Green is not a dispensationalist (one who sees history as divided into strict 'dispensations' or time frames).

The Alabama pastor explained: "Frankly, I am kind of perturbed at any inerrantist brothers for leading the assault because, in my view, Milton Green and James Robison are just trying to interpret very literally and specifically the Scriptures, which is what the inerrantists have been telling us to do."

Jim Hylton, pastor of Lake Country Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas, who has been instrumental in helping Green come to prominence, said: "Milton is a man that God has worked in and done a beautiful thing in."

Hylton, who led the meeting in which Robison met Green, added: "To say that he is not for the local church or for the pastor is totally to miss the point, and especially is that true with James. They are for the local church; they are for the pastor. What they are wanting is that the local pastor begin to minister to the needs of hurting people and see the needs of people met. . . ."

He said part of the "misunderstanding" comes from Green "verbalizing something the church has neglected for awhile."

(Druin is associate editor of the Texas Baptist Standard.)

Green will be leading a conference in Jackson, May 7-12, at the Coliseum Ramada Inn.

Deacons to be ordained

There will be a deacon ordination service at County Line Church, Crystal Springs on Sunday, May 6 at 2:30 p.m. Deacon candidates are Thomas Holmes, Ruel Thornton, and Orvey Wright. The ordaining council will meet at 2. Mike Pennock, pastor of Harmony Church, Crystal Springs, will bring the charge to the church. Bob Mack is pastor.

Committee on Boards

(Continued from page 3)

cent years to protect against conflict of interest.

Exceptions include Jerry Passmore, pastor of Olive Baptist Church in Pensacola, Fla., named to the SBC Executive Committee; Stephen G. Hyde, pastor of First Baptist Church of Silver Spring, Md. (District of Columbia Baptist Convention); named to the board of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; and Ted Garrison, a medical doctor and member of First Baptist Church of Camdentown, Mo., named to the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Fuller said another exception was the naming of 1984 Committee on Boards member Ronald E. Stewart, pastor of Northside Baptist Church of Lebanon, Ohio, to the Board of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

Stewart had been named an interim trustee at Southern Seminary—allowed under the seminary's charter—prior to being told of the guidelines. The committee made an exception in Stewart's case, Fuller said, and nominated the Ohioan to a full five-year term.

Fuller said "some questions were raised" about a North Carolina man who was eligible for renomination as a trustee but was not renominated. Richard Eskew, pastor of First Baptist Church of Yadkinville, N.C., had served an unexpected term of three years and a full term of four years, and was eligible, under convention bylaws, for a second full term on the Home Mission Board.

"The guideline was that we would renominate persons eligible . . . unless there was good and sufficient reason that they not be renominated," Fuller said. "The North Carolina representative was aware of Eskew's eligibility and commended him for 'good and faithful service,'" Fuller said.

"The reason she gave for not renominating Eskew was that he had served an unexpired term and then a full term, and another term would give him 11 years on the Home Mission Board. She said that was an 'excessively long period of time,' especially when there were many other people in North Carolina qualified to serve who had not been able to do so," Fuller said.

Fuller said the committee accepted the nomination of Thomas S. Freeman, pastor of First Baptist Church of Dunn, N.C., to replace Eskew on the Home Mission Board, but raised a number of questions.

"Primarily, they were reluctant to make exceptions to the guidelines. The second major area was they wanted to be sure the person in question (Eskew) was contacted as soon as possible by one of the North Carolina representatives so the situation and their rationale would be fully explained," Fuller said.

Fuller said T. W. Wilson of Montreat, N.C., and vice chairman of the committee, made a motion that Fuller ask the SBC Executive Committee to study the possibility of setting a limit on the number of years any person could serve on any board of trustees.

The motion was seconded by the

other North Carolina representative, Mrs. Richard Frazier of Roanoke Rapids, and was adopted by the committee.

"The sentiment of the group was that the Executive Committee look into this matter. I don't know that everyone on the committee approved setting an eight or 10 year limit, but the vote was that the Executive Committee study the possibility."

Fuller said a seven-member subcommittee will meet prior to the Kansas City annual meeting to fill in any gaps in the report and to replace persons who have either moved or died. Serving with Fuller on the subcommittee will be Ron Phillips, Hixson, Tenn.; John Wright, Little Rock, Ark.; Brenda Shaver, El Toro, Calif.; Dale Hensley, Grandview, Mo.; Wallace Henley, Birmingham, Ala., and Ronald E. Stewart, Lebanon, Ohio.

Nominees are clergy or denominational related, unless specified.

Executive Committee (69 members): 20 nominations considered; 12 persons renominated, eight new members.

New members include William D. Powell, a dentist from Shades Mountain church, Birmingham, new Alabama member; Wallace E. Jones of Fee Fee Church, Bridgeton, Mo., replacing William C. Link Jr., of Liberty, who resigned; Doyle Collins, of Vine Street Church, Roseburg, Ore., replacing Jack D. Stuart of Springfield, Ore., who died.

New members named to unexpired terms include Charles W. Sullivan of First Church, Lenoir City, Tenn., replacing Earl Wilson of Knoxville, who resigned (term to expire in 1987); and Paul Pressler, an attorney from First Church, Houston, replacing C. Welton Gaddy, of Fort Worth,

Texas, who moved (term to expire in 1987).

New members replacing persons ineligible for second terms are Jerry Passmore of Olive Church, Pensacola, Fla., replacing Conrad Wilford, Miami; John T. Tippet Jr. of Calvary Church, Savannah, Ga., replacing James C. Bruner, Macon, and Joe B. Warwick, businessman from Second Church, Knoxville, Tenn., replacing William A. Fortune, Knoxville.

Nominated for second terms are Mrs. Jerry Miller, Huntsville, Ala.; Alvin O. West, District of Columbia; John R. McCall, Louisville, Ky.; John Sullivan, Shreveport, La.; Malcolm A. Jones, Silver Spring, Md. (Maryland Convention); Roger Brink, Warren, Mich.; Tommy King, Monticello, Miss.; John Bunn, Sylva, N.C.; Kenneth Mahanes, Dayton, Ohio; Dan Hobbs, Norman, Okla.; John C. Cothran, Greenville, S.C., and James E. Baucom, Martinsville, Va.

(Note: Nominees to all the other SBC boards and agencies will be listed in next week's Baptist Record.)

Bowmar Ave. has some fire damage

In the early hours of last Friday, a building on adjacent property to Bowmar Avenue Baptist Church, Vicksburg, caught fire, causing "relatively minor" damage to the church, according to interim educational minister Dennis Conniff.

Conniff said an educational building of the church caught fire and the steeple of the auditorium was damaged. No estimates on repairs had been made at press time. Fred Robertson is pastor.

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Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams

I like hot weather

"Ummm! Nice weather," I remarked the other afternoon at 4:45, as I walked out the back door of the Baptist Building.

"Right," agreed A. L. Nelson, "But soon hot weather will be back. Why don't you write about why you like hot weather?"

Art Nelson retired in March as business manager, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, but stayed through April to assist his successor in getting started. He's been one of my co-workers for 26 of the 31 years I've worked here, and I really will miss him. "Many wish for Friday," he said. "I more often have wished for Monday. This was a job I loved doing, with people I love. It has given me real satisfaction."

When I first interviewed him, in December, 1958, he told me he was born in Michigan. "I like Mississippi better than many who are born here," he said. "I freely chose to make it my home." Why did he choose it? Because of the climate? "Because I like the people," he pointed out.

During World War II, while stationed at Jackson Air Base, he got his first taste of this state—and an introduction to Nola Kate Ball, whom he married. (They have six children and seven grandchildren.) "When I first arrived here, I had spent two sleepless nights on a train—so Jackson looked real good." At North Park Junior College in Chicago he had played football. Then he got a bachelor of administration and accounting degree from the University of Minnesota.

Not too long ago, W.D. and I attended the open house the Nelsons held at their place, 1023 Briarfield Road in Jackson. "Music is my number one hobby and recreation, I love music," Mr. Nelson repeated to me recently. In the old, smaller Baptist Building, he used to play Christmas carols on the organ and we could hear and enjoy, in every office. In the past he has played the piano and organ at various churches and in conferences at Gulfshore; he said he hopes to get back now more into his music, since he will have more time to practice. He's organist for Adult 9 Sunday School Department at Broadmoor Church, Jackson, where

he is also general secretary of the Sunday School, as well as an ordained deacon.

During May, he said, he plans to begin writing the early history of the SBC State Business Managers Association.

Back to hot weather in Jackson. Since Mr. Nelson brought up the question, I've been listing things I like about it, and here they are:

—Air Conditioning, if the thermostat can stay on 75, and not on 65 where you have to squinch up to stay warm—Biking and boating—Camping—Daylight saving time—Electricity displayed in lightning streaks across dark skies, accompanied by thunderous sound effects—Fairs, especially the "world" kind where you mingle with people of every tribe and nation, and wish you could find a shady spot to sit down and drink a Coke.

—Gulfshore and Garaywa going full swing—Humidity, the Mississippi kind that makes me feel so heavy I have to sit down to rest whether I have time or not (if you don't see my tongue, it's in my cheek.)—Ice cream—Juices, all kinds of cold fruit ones—Kabobs cooking on a patio grill—Lawns to mow (yes, I do like to mow and to smell the grass as it's cut) and Labor Day holiday to look forward to.

—Mosquitoes (to be honest, I don't like them, but they do love me)—Nights of sitting outside on the steps without a coat, looking up at the stars—Organdy dresses in garden weddings—Picnics—Quail tripping across Mama's yard while W.D. whistles and they reply—Reunions—Swimming—Toffee bars to eat while I drive, melted from the hot sun through the windshield.

—Umbrella trees with thick leaves.

—Vacation time—Watermelons—Xanthippe thoughts (Xanthippe, wife of Socrates, is said to have been an ill-tempered shrew. As a rule, I do like the heat better, but if I got too hot, I have been known to be ill-tempered. So I have to think to myself occasionally, "Watch it, Xanthippe!")—Yard sales—Zoo visits.

And that, Mr. Nelson, is from A to Z what I like (or don't like) about hot weather!

Mississippi Baptist activities

- May 6 Senior Adult Day (CT Emphasis)
- May 6 Christian Home Sunday (CAC Emphasis)
- May 6-13 Christian Home Week (CAC Emphasis)
- May 7 WMU Special Day and Edwina Robinson Offering (WMU Emphasis)
- May 8 Associational Planning Workshop; Alta Woods BC, Jackson; 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. (PD)
- May 10 Mississippi Baptist Medical/Dental Fellowship; FBC, Jackson; 6:15-9:00 p.m. (BRO)
- May 11-12 Adult Campcraft Training Conference; Central Hills; 5 p.m., 11th-Noon, 12th (BRO)
- May 12 Youth Speakers' Tournament State Finals; Calvary BC, Jackson; 10 a.m.-Noon (CT)
- Youth Bible Drill Selection Tournament; Calvary BC, Jackson; 1-6 p.m. (CT)

Typists needed for Kenya

An urgent request has come from Sam Turner, missionary in Kenya, and former Mississippian, for six to ten women with typing skills to travel to Kenya during the first two weeks in June to help set up a new library at the Baptist Seminary of East Africa.

The work would consist of helping to catalogue books, type library cards, lists of books, etc.

Expenses for the trip will need to be handled by the individuals who go to do the work. For further information, contact Marjean Patterson, Box 530, Jackson, Ms. 39205.

Thursday, May 3, 1984

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5

Letters to the Editor

Appreciation for help

Editor:

I shall be forever grateful if you will allow me this means to convey our thanks to Southern Baptists across Mississippi who responded to our desperate needs when our town was devastated by a vicious tornado. McColl area churches led the way in rescue and recovery.

Individuals and groups came from

everywhere to help us. Things were so hectic that we never knew when some groups were here. In some cases we were not able to keep records when we did know they were here. Volunteer workers made the difference between an unendurable situation and one of survival and beginning recovery.

Baptist Women and Baptist Men from Brotherhood Departments of many states have given us inspiration, courage, and determination to continue, with God's help, to try to assist the despairing people of McColl to rebuild their homes and their lives.

Hundreds of miracles through hundreds of caring Christians have blessed us. Not the least of these was the Disaster Van from the Brotherhood Department, Alabama Baptist Convention. The Van provided electronic communication equipment and from March 30 to April 15 served 12,205 hot meals to disaster victims, volunteer workers, and security personnel.

Just as important is the poor widow whose only income, a small social security check, was shared with us.

Mere words cannot express our deep appreciation and heart-felt thanks. We are prouder than ever to be Southern Baptists, and we are praising him for fellow Baptists and for the Cooperative Program.

Dallas Redding, Pastor
First Baptist Church
McColl, S.C.

State speakers' tourney to take place in Jackson

The Mississippi Baptist State Youth Speakers' Tournament will take place May 12 at Calvary Church, Jackson.

The tournament begins at 10 a.m., and participants will be judged on content and composition. Eligible are youths in grades 10-12 who are active members of Church Training groups.

Winner of the tourney will have the opportunity to represent Mississippi at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center in North Carolina, July 8-13, with expenses paid by the Church Training Department which sponsors the tourney.

And three of the finalists (highest ranking except for the winner) will be invited to Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, during Church Training Leadership Conference, Aug. 8-11, with assembly costs paid.

Also, the state winner will be asked to give the winning speech on Youth Night at the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson, Aug. 3.

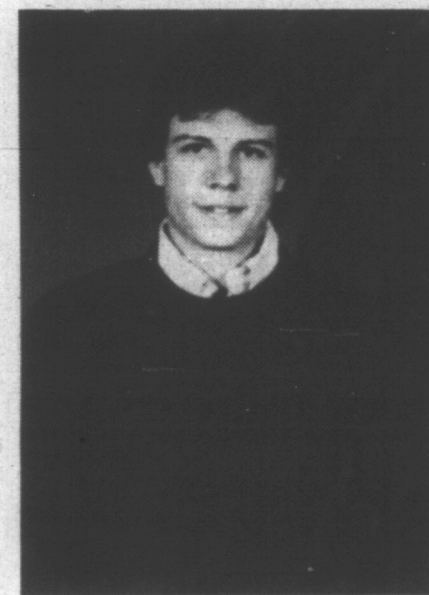
Potts is Alabama executive secretary

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (BP)—A. Earl Potts of Montgomery was named executive secretary-treasurer of the Alabama State Convention by the convention's executive board at a special called meeting April 19.

Potts has been acting executive secretary-treasurer since Jan. 1, 1984, following the retirement of George E. Bagley who had been executive secretary-treasurer for 20 years.

Previously Potts was assistant to the executive secretary-treasurer and director of the church ministries division of the Alabama executive board. He came to the Baptist board in 1970 after 21 years as pastor of McElwain Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala.

Potts, 63, is a graduate of Samford University, Birmingham, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Samford awarded him an honorary doctor of divinity degree in 1972. He was born in Dickert, Ala., and grew up in Shawmut, Ala.



David Croxton

Last year's state winner was David Croxton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis L. Croxton of Brandon. He is a member of Oakdale Church, Brandon. Croxton's speech was entitled, "Why Me, Lord?"

French elect Thomas

PARIS—The French Baptist Home Mission Board has named Southern Baptist missionary Charles "T" Thomas secretary for the South West region of France. Thomas will oversee progress of mission churches in the 23,000-square-mile region, according to Andre Thobois, president of the French Baptist Federation. He also will be responsible for proposing sites for new Baptist work. Thomas, from Atlanta, Ga., and his wife, Kathie, a native of Cynthiana, Ky., have been in France since 1976.

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Secretaries' officers

New officers of the Mississippi Baptist Secretaries Association for 1984-1985 are shown above. Left to right, seated, they are Linda Douglas, second vice-president, secretary, Brotherhood Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; Virginia Fulton, out-going president, secretary, First Church, Grenada; Sandra Sartor, first vice-president, secretary, First Church, Escatawpa. Standing is Lillian Carte, secretary-treasurer, secretary, First Church, Long Beach. Not pictured is the new president, Margaret Gipson, secretary, Union Church, Picayune.

Church staff conference to feature Howard Spell

The summer Pastor/Church Staff Conference slated for Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, July 9-11, will feature Howard Spell, retired dean of Mississippi College, as Bible study leader.



Spell

This conference, designed for all church staffers, will have special interest sessions for ministers and wives, for secretaries, and for kindergarten-day care workers.

Music leaders for the program will be Bennie and Bettye McBride, who are minister of music and organist, respectively, at Pearson Church, Pearl.

Other program leaders will be Delos Miles, professor of evangelism at Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.; Fred McGehee, career guidance consultant for the Baptist Sunday School Board; and David Cundiff, professor of physical education and director of the University of



Miles



McGehee

Southern Mississippi Physical Fitness Institute.

Wilma Lowe will coordinate the kindergarten-day care workshop; Wilda Fancher is coordinating the secretaries' workshop. They are both approved workers for Mississippi Baptists.

For reservations, write Gulfshore at Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss., 39571. For program information, contact Leon Emery, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.

ACLU sues two for giving Bibles

BOISE, Idaho (EP)—The American Civil Liberties Union has filed suit in U.S. District Court to stop Gideons International from distributing free New Testaments to elementary school students in Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and North Dakota.

The suit names as plaintiffs Magdalena Ripplinger, a fifth-grader from Jerome, Idaho, and her father, Joseph. ACLU lawyers say the practice of distributing New Testaments in public schools violates the constitutional prohibition against state establishment of religion.



Bennie and Bettye McBride

Resolutions body slates May meeting

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—The 1984 Southern Baptist Convention Resolutions Committee will meet May 17-18 to begin planning their work at the annual meeting in Kansas City, Mo.

The pre-convention meeting started in 1983, to allow the Resolutions Committee time to prepare its work for the annual meeting. In recent years, the volume of proposed resolutions has increased to the point that an additional meeting is necessary.

In announcing the pre-convention meeting, Chairman Bailey Stone, pastor of First Baptist Church, Odessa, Tex., asked persons who plan to present resolutions at the SBC to submit them prior to the May 17-18 meeting.

Persons planning to submit resolutions are asked to send them to Stone in care of the Resolutions Committee at the SBC Executive Committee, 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tenn., 37219.

Submitting the resolutions in time for consideration at the May meeting will facilitate the work of the committee, Stone said. He added that even if the resolutions are sent to the committee they also must be introduced at the annual meeting after it convenes.

During the convention, according to Stone, persons submitting resolutions for consideration will present them to one of the convention officers at a desk set up adjacent to the podium. The officer will read the name of the messenger submitting the resolution and its topic into the record.

Persons submitting resolutions will not speak to their suggestion at that time, but may appear before the resolutions committee and may speak to the body's final report.

In addition to Stone, other members of the 10-member committee includes three representatives from the SBC Executive Committee: Darrell Robinson, pastor of Dauphin Way Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala.; Otis Testerman, pastor of Bookcliff Baptist Church, Grand Junction, Colo.; and Frank Ingraham, an attorney from Nashville.

Other members are David Simpson, editor of the Indiana Baptist; Reuel May, an oral surgeon from Jackson, Miss.; Ed Packwood, a retiree from Shawnee, Okla.; Carl F. H. Henry, a theologian from Arlington, Va.; George Schroeder, a dentist from Little Rock, Ark., and Cristobal Dona, a pastor from San Jose, Calif.

It is better to have a hen tomorrow than an egg today.—Thomas Fuller

A state is a perfect body of free men, united together to enjoy common rights and advantages.—Hugo Grotius

Music reading workshop offered

A Music Reading Workshop featuring publishers and new music will be held May 25 at Alta Woods Church, Jackson, sponsored by the Jackson Baptist Book Store.



Forbis

Publishers and their representatives will be Broadman, Wes Forbis; Lillenas, Mosie Lister; Hinshaw, Dick

Thorne, and Lorenz and Triune, Terry Kirkland.

A \$20 registration fee covers music and lunch at the church. The program begins with registration, coffee, and a book store exhibit, 8-9 a.m., and concludes at 9:30 that evening. Coordinator will be Greg Skipper of the Sunday School Board's book store marketing department.

Send \$20 per person to Charles McGlocklin, manager, Baptist Book Store, 125 North President Street, Jackson, Miss., 39201, phone 354-3417.

Northwest BSU buys center

On April 9, the Baptist Student Union of Northwest Mississippi Junior College, Senatobia, purchased a house which will serve as a student center.

The former residence at 202 West Street, is adjacent to the campus and will provide an accessible center for all students. This is the first center of its type at Northwest.

Acting as trustees in behalf of the Baptist Student Union are James

Brewer, Senatobia; Tom Boone, Holly Springs; Don Waller, Oxford; Horace Matthews, Como; and Pat Nowell, Tunica. Trustees were elected by the local Advisory Committee in February. John Flowers, Senatobia, is chairman of the advisory committee.

The center will be opened in June with a dedicatory service and open house scheduled for August.

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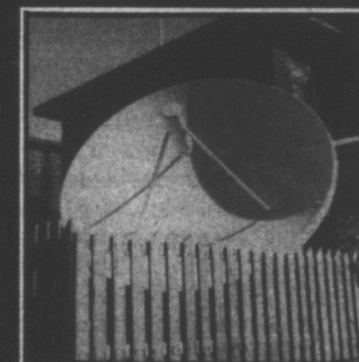
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BROADMAN 5/84

SENIOR ADULT

Medical-Dental Fellowship will hear music, missionaries



Fort

Fort

The third annual Medical/Dental Fellowship meeting, Mississippi Chapter, will take place May 11-12 at Broadmoor Church, Jackson.



Fowler

On May 11, there will be a 6:15 p.m. banquet in the fellowship hall at the church, costing \$10 per person, with physicians, dentists, and their spouses invited to attend.

Bi-vocational ministers to meet

The banquet will feature Giles and Wana Ann Fort, both missionary physicians in Zimbabwe. Banquet entertainers will be the Joyful Sounds, consisting of four couples from Broadmoor.

One in the series of area conferences for bi-vocational ministers will take place May 14 at North Ripley Church, Ripley.

The Monday evening meeting will begin at 6:30 with supper. For reservations, contact Harry Phillips, director of missions for Benton-Tippah counties, at Box 67, Walnut, Miss., 38683, phone 223-4386.

Other area meetings will take place in Lexington and Tishomingo, both in September.

These meetings are fellowship and inspirational meetings for bi-vocational ministers who hold church and secular jobs and for area directors of missions.

These conferences are sponsored by the Cooperative Missions Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Hollis Bryant, consultant.

Adults: Learn campcraft!

Adults wanting to learn campcraft skills as leaders of Royal Ambassador boys, will have their chance to experience all the basics firsthand, Saturday, May 12, at Central Hills Baptist Retreat, Kosciusko.

Basic level training in nature study; equipment and shelter; safety and sanitation; map and compass reading; rope, tool, and fire craft; conservation; first aid; and cooking.



The Joyful Sounds

The eight members of the Joyful Sounds are (from left in photo) Mignonette Tadlock, homemaker; J. M. Wood, minister of music, Broadmoor Church, Jackson; Gail Wood, employee of the Baptist Record; Kerry Grantham, regional vice president of Fidelity Union; Nan Grantham, music assistant at Broadmoor Church; Bennie Frizzell, director of hospital information systems for University Medical Center; Corrine Frizzell, employees of Charles M. Catledge Co.; and James Tadlock, administrator in Jackson Public Schools. Susie Cook is pictured as accompanist for the group.

And at the banquet, Fred Fowler, Foreign Mission Board Medical con-

sultant, will be sharing about mission opportunities for medical and dental personnel.

New officers will be elected, and volunteer involvement for the past year will be reported.

The next morning, May 12, there will be a continental breakfast compliments of the Brotherhood Department in the Skyroom of the Baptist Building in downtown, Jackson. The breakfast will be a sharing time with furloughing missionaries.

To make reservations for the banquet and/or the breakfast, please contact the Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, phone 968-3800.

Hams help raise antenna

Ham radio operators R. L. White K5MZU and Robert Mills N5FLO, members of First Church, Union, put up a new radio antenna recently to get Charles Melton back on the air again. Melton, K52FM, Newton County Baptist missionary and professor at Clarke College, was active in HAM Radio until his antenna was blown down in the tornado that came through Newton, about two years ago.

White and Mills heard about this just recently and decided to give a helping hand to a fellow Ham. Melton is already back on the air.

Many Baptist Ham's meet on the air on Sunday afternoon for the Mississippi Baptist Ham Net.

Nabi to lead in special ed conference

Gene Nabi, consultant in the special ministries unit of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, will lead conferences for all parents and teachers of mentally retarded persons at Camp Garaywa, during the planned Retreat, May 18-19.

Nabi came to the Board in 1983 following Mrs. Doris Monroe's retirement, the former consultant.

Nabi had served as president of Mental Retardation Services, Inc., and executive director of the Tennessee Association of Retarded Citizens.

The retreat, planned by the Church Training Department, is for all special education persons, their parents, and teachers. It will begin with supper at 6 on Friday, May 18, and conclude at 4 p.m., Saturday, May 19.

At least one chaperone is needed for every three special ed persons planned to attend. Also, a registration fee of \$2.50 per person should be sent to Miss Evelyn George, Church Training Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.



Nabi

Thursday, May 3, 1984

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7



Money could send US-2ers

By Carl Savell

It was my job last year to serve as the chairman of the personnel committee for the board of directors of the Home Mission Board. The importance of the Cooperative Program was impressed deeply in my experience as we received and approved missionary personnel files.

I have never been moved with greater concern for missions than the day we processed the applications for US-2 missionaries. Out of almost 100 applications from the finest young people we have produced, fewer than one-third could be appointed. The reason—money! Or should I say, the lack of it.

When I saw that we were turning

down the best qualified, brightest young people in our convention who felt led to do mission work, I dedicated myself to preach and teach the need for a greater commitment through the Cooperative Program.

(Carl Savell is pastor of Woodville Heights Church, Jackson.)

The average pair of feet takes 7,000 to 8,000 steps a day, or about 2 1/2 million steps a year. The average typical person walks four to five miles a day, or 115 thousand miles in a lifetime—more than four times the distance around the world.—Family Weekly

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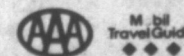
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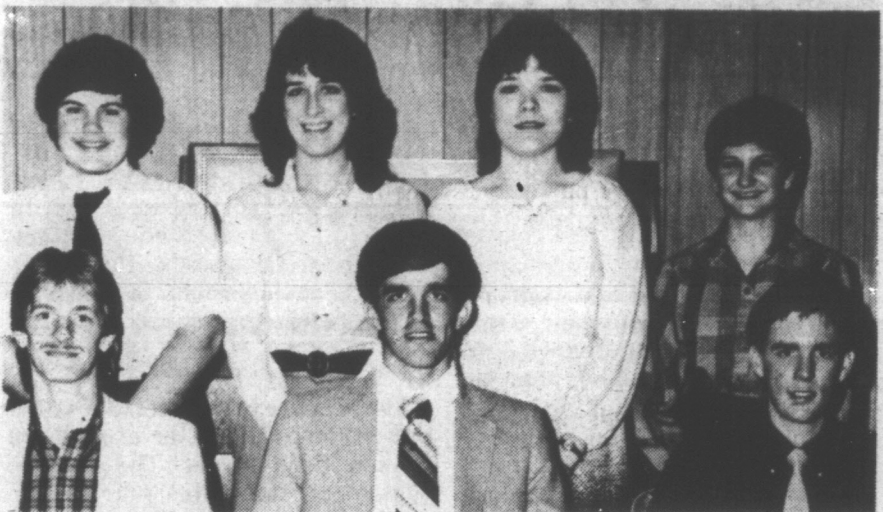
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T D A Y M A Y 6

— Just for the Record —



THE EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE BAPTIST STUDENT UNION recently elected officers for the 1984-85 school year. They are: (seated, left to right) Jeff Pennington, Decatur, music chairman; Charles Edwards, Sebastopol, president; Andy Thaggard, Philadelphia, worship chairman; (standing, left to right) Tiny Hollingsworth, Lake, fellowship chairman; Kim Jones, Sebastopol, publicity chairman; Sharon Winstead, Forest, secretary; Amy Cox, Lake, fellowship co-chairman; and (not pictured) music committee—Brooks McElhenny, Decatur, and Johnny Walker, Louisville. The Baptist Student Union is directed by Miss Gladys Bryant.



GAS OF CALVARY CHURCH, GREENVILLE, took part in a scavenger hunt recently, to collect canned goods for the Benevolence Pantry at the church. Left to right, back row, are Melanie Adams, Linda and April Riley. Front row: Beverly Downs, Lee Ann Dorris, Keri Furr, Jennifer LaFoe, Jennifer Furr, Karen Self, and Tammy Cox. Jimmy Furr is the pastor.

The Children's Choir of Lakeview Church, Leland presented the musical "Down By The Creek Bank," on Sunday night, March 25. Paul Blanchard is pastor.

The 1984-85 Baptist Student Union executive council at Copiah-Lincoln Junior College was officially installed April 17 at the college. The new officers are Teresa Kennedy, Magee, president; Rhonda Cupstid, Monticello, secretary; David Caves, Sontag, program chairman and dorm devotion chairman of Ellzey Hall; Martin Moore, Bogue Chitto, center chairman and dorm devotion chairman for Lincoln Hall; Marilyn Bedford, Meadville, dorm devotion chairman for Copiah Hall; Patricia Grantham, Harrisville, publicity and dorm devotion chairman for Stevens Hall; Tom Martin, Wesson, and Kathy Bucknor, Harrisville, music chairpersons; and Kevin Smith, Wesson, nursing home chairman. Eddie Smith is faculty advisor, and Roy Smith is BSU director.

— Revival Results —

New Hope (Marion): April 15-21; Sonny Adkins, New Hebron, evangelist; eight professions of faith; good attendance each service; Bobby Smith, pastor.

Rawls Springs Church, Hattiesburg, will observe Senior Adult Day on May 6. All senior adults in the church will be recognized at the 11 a.m. worship service. Also the service will be led by senior adults. Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall after the morning service, and all the senior adults are invited to the lunch. Tommy Dobbins is the pastor.

— Homecomings —

Damascus Church, Hazlehurst: May 6; homecoming; Fred Bolian, former pastor, preaching at the morning services; Hope Freeman, Co-Lin student and music director at Damascus, leading the singing; dinner on the grounds; singing in the afternoon; Wayne Rowan, pastor.

Kreole Avenue Church, Moss Point: homecoming; May 6; J. William Hall, preaching at 11 a.m.; dinner at the church (outside); 2 p.m. service to feature Claude Fortenberry, speaker, and music by the Melody Tones; special music at both services, directed by Lamar Callahan, minister of music; Dan Hembree, pastor.

New Hope will celebrate 100th

New Hope Church, Starkville, Oktibbeha County, will have a triple celebration on May 13. In addition to observing homecoming and recognizing mothers on Mother's Day, New Hope will be celebrating 100 years of service to the Lord.

Services will begin at 10 a.m. and will include a reading of the history of the church.

Pastors from the past will speak, and Arnold Chavers, current pastor, will bring the morning message. There will be a covered dish dinner and, to add to the festivities, many members will be coming dressed in old-fashioned clothing.

After lunch, there will be a gospel singing.

— Staff Changes —

Emory Huey has accepted the position as education/youth director at Meadowood Church, Amory, effective May 20. He expects to be graduated from New Orleans Seminary on May 12. He and his wife, Margie, and children, Greg and Shirley, are natives of Pennsylvania. Within the past 10 months, 105 additions have been recorded at the Meadowood Church. As a result, this new staff member is being added. Danny Powell is the pastor.

Huey

David E. Hamilton has accepted the pastorate of First Church, Verona. His home town is Maben. He goes from Pleasant Hill Church, Calhoun County, and is working toward his doctorate in counseling at Mississippi State. He is a graduate of Southwestern Seminary.

Hamilton

Jim Wages is serving as pastor of Temple Church, Lee County. He is from Guntown.

Lee Rodgers has resigned as pastor of Benton Church, Yazoo County, to accept the pastorate of Highland Crest Church, Austin, Tex.

L. C. Brown Sr., has resigned the pastorate of Brookway Church, Lincoln Association. He is taking retirement.

Harry Kennedy has been called as pastor of Bethel Church, Lincoln Association.

Riley Ainsworth has resigned the pastorate of Hopewell Church, Copiah County, and has accepted the pastorate of Central Church, Benton.

Students join forces — discover culture shock

During spring break seven William Carey College students joined forces with nine University of Southern Mississippi students to discover the culture shock of Houston, Tex. Along with Carey's director of religious activities, Tom Hearon, they spent five days working in three Baptist mission centers organized by Southern Baptist Home Missionary Mildred McWhorter and the Baptist churches of the city.

Work during the week was varied. Several students spent the whole week reworking the interior of an 89-year-old woman's house and, in the process, restoring to her a desire and vision for life.

Others sorted clothing and food that had been donated to the mission. This was later presented to women who came to the centers for classes in English or sewing and Bible study.

Some of the missionaries' time was spent working with children of various ages. Jeff Barnes told of helping to keep about 50 nursery aged children:—"You know you're overloaded when you have one child in each arm, one in your lap, one wrapped around your leg and another on

your neck—and you're the one with a free hand to help someone else."

The greatest experience of culture shock came when the group left the poverty of the Mexican-American "barrios" to attend church at First, Houston, on Wednesday night. The massive structure awed the visitors, who originally thought it to be a hospital in just seeing it from the highway. Could God really be active in such wealth and in such poverty? It took some time but all later agreed that the affluent of any city need reaching just as do the poverty stricken.

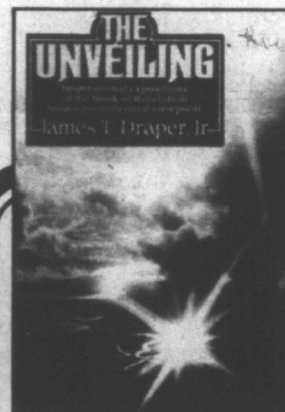
Students participating from William Carey College were Frank Gunn, Biloxi; Renee Dubose, Hattiesburg; Raymond Caldwell, Caledonia; Jeff Barnes, Shalimar, Fla.; Cecil Jenkins, Picayune; Timothy Sims, Chicago, Ill.; Rawdy Smith, Bernice, La.

Students participating from USM were Jerry Roberson, Meridian; Lydia Jackson, Brookhaven; Brian Ladner, Picayune; Richard Herring, Jackson; Steve Cowan, Hattiesburg; Mike Beard, Picayune; Cam Holzer, Perkinston; Mary Sue Ward, Wesson; Don Jackson, Thomasville, Ala.



Students tutor children

A group of students from the Baptist Student Union at Gulf Coast Junior College, Perkinston campus, are helping tutor children at the Deanash Home of the Baptist Children's Village, Bond. A total of 16 college students are involved, with nine tutoring on a weekly basis. The students hosted the children recently for a ham-turkey cookout.



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James T. Draper, Jr. is president of the Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas. He is the author of *The Conscience of a Nation*.



BROADMAN

150 Lamar RAs camp at Little Black Creek Park

Raymond McMahon, Lamar Association R.A. director, reports outstanding participation in the association's first Royal Ambassador spring rally, March 23 and 24. "Expecting 65 to 70 boys and with an 80 percent chance of rain, we were delighted with the approximately 150 Crusaders and 30 counselors," he said. The overnight campout was at Little Black Creek Water Park, south of Purvis. Lamar County churches represented were Bellevue; Calvary, Oak Grove; Hickory Grove; Immanuel; Oloh Richburg; First, Sumrall; and First, Purvis.

Friday night entertainment was provided by "Love, Inc.," young

adults from Calvary, Oak Grove. This group has performed in several states and has recently traveled to the Mississippi State Prison at Parchman to witness and entertain. Along with the puppet ministry, also of Calvary, they provided singing, games, and devotional for the RAs.

Saturday morning featured devotional, singing, games, and campcraft classes presented by counselors. All the boys in grades 1-3 qualified for Camper Badges; the boys in grades 4-6 qualified for Hiker Badges.

Douglass Benedict is director of mission for Lamar Association.

Baptist disaster work

(Continued from page 3) small children who had been left there with a babysitter. The radio unit got him in touch with appropriate help. The kids turned up later; they had been moved before the tornado struck and couldn't get in touch because of the melee. The man returned to the unit later to say thanks for the help.

Another man whose home was destroyed needed radio help to contact his employer in Ohio. The hams obliged.

One woman stopped by the unit, which was set up in the middle of the destroyed area of town on a Church of Christ parking lot, and gave \$10. She was told the food was free. "No, I want to contribute." She had just been passing through and was impressed by the ministry. A number of

the utility workmen made contributions. One Southern Baptist told task force members, "I knew we had the unit, but I never really had an idea of what it could do."

Paul Harrell, who directs the disaster ministry as Brotherhood director for Mississippi Baptists, was returning to Water Valley May 1 to see what type of recovery assistance will be needed.

The Home Mission Board was sending \$10,000 in relief funds, and an unknown amount of state mission offering will go to relief. This will depend on the assessment made by churches in the area and through associational missions committees in affected areas. Said Harrell, "We probably can't cover any person's total loss, but we can help."

Those wishing to help out in recovery, said Harrell, are asked to contact their director of missions who will pass on volunteer information should help be needed.

B'hood trustees approve budget

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)—Trustees of the Brotherhood Commission approved a \$2.7 million budget for 1984-85 and voted to set up a project to develop interests in Brotherhood work in Korea during the Commission's semi-annual meeting in Memphis April 19-20.

The 1984-85 budget of \$2,737,285 includes a 2.79 increase in Cooperative Program funds and a 5.99 anticipated increase in income generated through sale of merchandise and magazines.

The Korean project involves arranging a mission tour to several sites in Korea to research ways of strengthening men's work there. Baptist Men from across the country will be invited to participate during a 10-day tour in the spring of 1985.

Discussions are also under way to offer help in developing a Brotherhood curriculum at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Daejeon, South Korea.

In other action the Brotherhood trustees heard an interim report on Missions Impact 2000, the committee studying the Brotherhood program. The committee which will present its final report to the trustees this fall has identified three age groups which need special attention in future programming—high school, young adult, and senior adult.

Damascus Church, Hazlehurst (Copiah): May 17-20; Willie Wright, pastor, Robinhood Church, Rankin County, evangelist; Wayne Rowan, pastor; Hope Freeman, Co-Lin, music director at Damascus, leading the music; services at 11 a.m. Sunday and 7:30 nightly.

Glade Church, Laurel: May 6-10; E. H. Dobbs, evangelist; Gary "Slim" Cornett, music evangelist; 7:30 nightly; Mon.-Thurs. at 10 a.m.

Center Hill, Hamilton: Sun.-Wed., May 6-9; evangelist: Pastor Don Nerren, music evangelist: Charlie Farrar of Kolola Springs; 7:30 nightly.

Trinity, Pearl (Rankin): May 6-9; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekdays at 7 p.m.; Ricky Gray, pastor, Hillsboro Church, Scott County, preaching; music under direction of Jim Lott, minister of youth and music, First, Pearl; instrumentalists, Peggy Rawson and Jan Leamond; O. Lyn Nations, pastor.



MR. AND MRS. WILBURN R. ROBERTS were given a reception on Saturday, April 28 by their children and grandchildren, in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary. The reception was held from 2 until 5 p.m. at the Sykes Road Community Center in Jackson. Roberts, before retirement was Mississippi representative for the Annuity Board, SBC. He was an employee of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board for 34 years. He and Mrs. Roberts, who live at 156 Denver St., Jackson, are members of First Baptist Church, Jackson.



GRADY COLLINS, pastor of Trinity Church, Philadelphia, and Mrs. Collins, were honored Mar. 25 for ten years of service. Randall Hearn, left, chairman of deacons presented them with the tickets, for a trip to the Holy Land. This was from friends and church family.

Names in the News

John Warren Steen, 6511 Currywood Drive, Nashville, Tenn., will direct the fifth annual Christian Writers' Grand Ole Workshop, July 8-12 in Nashville. Steen is a native of Mississippi. The conference is designed to give prospective writers practice in developing writing skills. Several authors and seven publishers will be among the program personalities.

Marti Solomon, national Acteens consultant, Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, Birmingham, Ala., will be the featured speaker for a recognition service to be held at Woodland Hills Church, Jackson, at 7 p.m. on May 6. The service will be held to honor Acteens, GA's, and Mission Friends. Miss Solomon previously served as youth and activities director at Woodland Hills Church.

Mack and Marie Jones, Baptist representatives to Mexico, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: c/o Miss Dixie Huffman, 668 Baxter St., Eugene, Ore. 97402). They are natives of Mississippi.



MR. AND MRS. GORDON H. SANSING and MR. AND MRS. TOM SANSING will honor their parents, MR. AND MRS. L. GORDON SANSING, with a reception on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary. The event will be held in the fellowship hall of Southside Church, 2511 C Street, Meridian, on Saturday, May 12, from two until four o'clock. Gordon H. Sansing is pastor of First, Vicksburg. L. Gordon Sansing has retired from the pastorate. He formerly served as associate executive secretary and later as director of the Evangelism Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Poplar Springs will mark centennial

Poplar Springs Church, Mendenhall, will celebrate its 100th anniversary on Sunday, May 6. Services will begin at 11 a.m. Kenneth West is the pastor.

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Revival Dates

Gulfport Heights Church, Gulfport: May 6-11; Bill Renick of Lemoyne Church, Biloxi, evangelist; Joe Wofford, Commission Road Church, music director; services at 6 p.m. on May 6; at 7 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Palestine Church, Harrisville (Simpson): May 4-6; services Fri. and Sat. at 7:30 p.m.; Sun. at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Dennis Dunn of Brookhaven, evangelist; Sammy McDonald, minister of music, music evangelist; Carl Burns, pastor.

Million given to Texas college

MARSHALL, Texas (BP)—A Texas couple who, during their lifetimes, helped 29 young people attend college, will aid countless others after their deaths.

The Joseph G. and Myrtle Beard Breco Endowment Fund, with assets in excess of \$1 million, has been established at East Texas Baptist College here.

Mrs. Breco died last December, several years after her husband.

Barber is business officer president

Joe H. Barber, Jr., vice president for business affairs at Mississippi College, has been named president of the Southern Association of College and University Business Officers (SACUBO).

A graduate of Mississippi State University he began his career in college administration at Mississippi College in 1950. Prior to returning to Mississippi College in 1973 in his present position, he served as business manager at New Orleans Seminary for five years and Comptroller at Mississippi University for Women for 16 years.

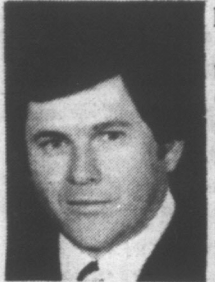
SACUBO is one of four regional associations of college and university business officers with 764 member institutions involving approximately 4,500 employees of these institutions who work in various business management functions.

Joe and his wife Betty are active members of the First Baptist Church of Clinton where both serve as Sunday School teachers and Joe is a deacon. The Barbers have three children, all graduates of Mississippi College.

Devotional An unsolved puzzle

By Rex Yancey, pastor, First, Quitman
Ecclesiastes 1:2

"Vanity of vanities," says the preacher. "Vanity of vanities! All is vanity." Have you ever tried to solve a Rubic's Cube? I usually work on one for a long time and then give up in frustration. I have a feeling that there are people who face life in the same way.



Yancey

The Book of Ecclesiastes examines life and discovers that a meaningful existence can be found only by faith in God. The writer was an elderly man who had been blessed through his life with wealth. He had opportunities to study at the finest schools, and he had the opportunity to travel extensively. He tried many things in search of happiness. His concluding philosophy after those attempts at life was, "Vanity raised to its highest degree."

The writer sought for meaning in life through luxury. But happiness escaped him. He tried lust in his search to solve the riddle of life. But again happiness escaped him. He tried liquor in his pursuit. But the bottle only irrigated his problems. He tried learning, but still found no answer to the riddle of life. He tried labor. Surely a career goal would solve the puzzle. But still the answer escaped him.

Every program he tried was empty. Every theory he tried was vanity raised to its highest degree. Surely, man, the crown of creation, could find meaning in life. But he couldn't find it then, and he can't find it now unless he realizes that a meaningful existence is only found by faith in God. Jesus is the answer to the riddle of life. All other answers are dead end streets.

BMC ministers' alumni elect Baker president

Blue Mountain College Ministerial Alumni Day was held April 6. New officers elected were Billy W. Baker of Ripley, president; Mike Burszynski of Corinth, president-elect; and David Allen of New Albany, re-elected secretary.

Roy Edgemon, director, Church Training Department, Sunday

School Board, SBC, Nashville, was guest speaker, on the subject, "What God Expects of Man," using Psalm 1 as his basis.

Others on program were E. Harold Fisher, president of Blue Mountain College, James Travis, professor of Bible; and Mark Frederick, president of the ministerial association.

During the chapel service in the morning, the Men's Ensemble brought special music, and Wayne Marshall of Corinth spoke.

Some of the men participated in a golf tournament during the afternoon. The group ate lunch at the college.

On March 23, Nazir Masih, director of North West India Baptist Association, and his staff met a 747 in New Delhi to welcome 30-plus team members arriving from the U.S. to be in India for eleven days of revival meetings. (These teams, volunteers for mass evangelism, from Florida and Virginia, came at the request of the Foreign Mission Board, SBC.)

At the Oberoi Hotel the teams were led in orientation by Harvey Kneisel, Mission Service Corps, Foreign Mission Board, and Larry Wood of the Florida Baptist Convention. The teams were then divided—five to minister in Calcutta and eleven in Chandigarh.

Saturday morning, we women here at the "Baptist House" (as I call it) in Chandigarh arose at dawn to go to the

airport to welcome our teams. (One familiar face I saw was a pastor, Ted Lott of Palm Springs, Fla., my son-in-law's uncle.) We ate breakfast with the jet-lagged travelers at the Mountain View Hotel and then left them to rest.

Sunday morning, the teams began their journeys to their various destinations. My husband, Al (Fairchild) was assigned to Jaghadri, about 85 kms. from Chandigarh. He was coordinator of two teams of three each. Satan was already at work, for when the teams arrived they had very poor meeting facilities and no interpreter. They prayed. God blessed. An interpreter was sent from Chandigarh.

These teams worked hard from early morning until late at night in spite of poor housing, rugged traveling, and many other unmentionables. Al's team began each day with a 7:30 a.m. chapel service at a local hospital. Then there was a mad rush between villages many kilometers apart, for a 10 a.m. service, noon service, 2 p.m. service, and 6 p.m. service. They would not reach their hotel 'til around midnight. In the course of the week they had ridden 1,230 bumpy kms., as far as from New Orleans to Miami. The two teams rejoiced with a report of 300 professions of faith. Al held baptismal services before leaving that area.

I was not assigned to any one team, but was to float about, visiting a different crusade each evening and performing with puppets.

Sunday morning I was at First Baptist, Chandigarh. Charles Gipson led the crusade here under a big tent pitched on the front lawn. There was an overflow crowd. Our children met on the back patio next to the fountain. There was an air of excitement, and everyone joined in the spirit of the meeting.

Sunday evening I joined Ted Lott's team in a little village where there was only one Christian family. The services were held on a gigantic ball field. We were gladly received by most of the villages. However, we did face some opposition from some hecklers standing by. At the close of the service the lights went out. The hecklers seized this opportunity to throw stones, and I received a fist full in the back of my head. No one was hurt, but it took more than one shampoo to remove the dirt and sand. Throughout the rest of the crusade the team was given police protection. God blessed. The crowds grew. There were more saved in this crusade than any other. Ted baptized 139 of them in a creek the next Sunday.

One crusade was held at the YWCA to accommodate the Punjab University students. What an outreach! These students came from many countries—from Africa to the Middle East to Canada. Al and I are now conducting two Bible studies a week on campus.

During the day we saturated the city with home Bible studies. We went from house to house, teaching, preaching, and praying for the sick. And just like Acts 2:47 says, "And the

Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

Toward the end of the week we took time out for sightseeing. The ladies enjoyed shopping for saris and punjabis.

After the closing service Sunday evening, Mrs. Masih prepared dinner for the Chandigarh teams, and we ate on her patio. The Indian food was delicious and the fellowship superb. Mrs. Masih presented to each team member a personal gift, as a token of appreciation.

Monday morning found me on the plane flying to Delhi with the group. I couldn't miss the banquet at the Oberoi that evening. The women looked beautiful in the saris they had purchased. But more beautiful were the testimonies of the team members. We found ourselves laughing one moment and almost weeping the next. Poor Bro. Ted could not give his report, for he had developed laryngitis and was somewhat waterlogged from all those baptisms in the cold creek!

How we praise God and the Foreign Mission Board for 1,685 precious souls saved in this non-Christian area of India, through these crusades and dedicated men and women of God.

(Molly and Al Fairchild, Missisippians, and former full-time evangelists here, are now living in Chandigarh, India, where they are doing volunteer mission work at their own expense.)

SCRAPBOOK

Life's journey

Life is a hill
And a valley below,
One sign says stop,
The other says go.
Life is a pattern
With a lot of designs,
A good many roads
And a good many signs.

Life is a ship
Tossing about,
The rig goes up,
And the lines go out.
Fishers of men
Keep tugging away
To keep their brothers
From going astray.

Life is a clock—
What more can we say
Except time's too short
To quibble away?
Put something in it
And soon you'll see
One blessing's for you,
The other is for me.

A thought for now: One will not soon be forgotten if he lives as close to God as he knows how, and is a friend in need throughout his life. Fame and fortune cannot come close to this.

—Mildred H. Bell
Grenada

Life's storms

The day was dark and clouds boiled up,
In billows that seemed so high
The thunder rolled, the lightning flashed—
As it streaked across the sky.
The wind blew hard as the rain came down
In torrents, in sheets and streams
It turned black as night as the storm
passed through,
With the power of a forty mule team.
Then all was hushed except the bird's clear song
As he took up the sweet refrain
Of a fresh washed world, all shining and bright
The result of the wind and rain.

There are times in life we can feel the storms
The darkness and the tears
Sense the dread of each day, the gloom
of the night,

As faith gives way to our fears.
Then when we reach the end of the rope
When all the hope that we had is gone
We can look up—Christ is still there
Just waiting to make right all that's wrong.

There are times we are put through life's trials
Face the winds and storms that blow
Our life like the world around us
Needs to be cleansed and refreshed also.
The transforming power of God's blessings
As to him we confess our sin
The forgiveness we experience through his mercy
Makes us clean without and within.

—Janice Mosley
Shubuta

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The Baptist Children's Village

Residential Child Care
A Village Family-Oriented Ministry

Places . . . Programs . . . People . . .

Village Places . . .

Different and differing PLACES are vital to our concept of a family-oriented child care ministry.

- * Residential Centers or "campuses" including two or more cottages for boys and girls, each with an atmosphere, environment and emphasis geared to the needs and abilities of the children in residence.
- * Group Homes or "off-campus cottages" structured and operated in close proximity to the image of a stable, natural, private home, but financed by The Children's Village and supervised by our trained, child-care staff.
- * Foster Homes - carefully selected and screened private homes in Mississippi who voluntarily accept Village children expressly requiring private care under the professional surveillance of our social service staff.
- * Six different Village installations in six different locations, representing virtually every geographical area of the state: urban and rural areas; large cities; small towns; the open country-side - each serves as "home" for one of our Mississippi installations.

Village Programs . . .

The family difficulties which dispatch children from their natural homes to residential group care are many and varied. The entire family is always involved in home problems and despite inadequacies, the private home and the natural family remain the Christian ideal. In recognition of these principles, The Children's Village reduces to a minimum, consistent with safety and common sense, the length of time during which any child must remain in the abnormality of group care, through time-limited and task-oriented PROGRAMS.

Family Clarification - In not to exceed 12 months, the basis of the family problem is identified, addressed and arrested to a safe and acceptable degree. Child, natural family and Village staff cooperate from the program's inception in attaining stated goals which progress to the reuniting of child and family.

Supplemental Parenting - Accepting the fact that some families cannot supply the minimum needs of their children, either materially or in basic parenting skills, but nevertheless represent a vital relationship to the children; The Village encourages, supports and sustains the wholesome and meaningful aspects of the natural family relationship, while supplying the child's care, training and direction which the family cannot supply, for either stated or indefinite periods of time.

Preparation For Independent Living - Older adolescents are assigned to residential agencies for custodial care in increasing numbers. Many face early

entry into the adult world with deficient academic backgrounds and with no skills or training. By this program, for varying periods of time, The Children's Village prepares the adolescent, through vocational training, to care for himself as a stable, confident adult in the complex and frightening world which he will soon join as an accountable adult.

Behavior Re-education - A 6-months intensive period of care, involving modification of behavior patterns which have been responsible for the child's inability to remain in his private home. Intensive professional guidance and therapy support cottage life in this program.

Chemical Dependency Unit - A 6 to 8-month program of extended therapy under Village campus care

for drug or alcohol-dependent adolescents referred from Mississippi Baptist Medical Center after orientation and detoxification. A controlled "step" between hospital and society, designed to reduce recidivism.

Crisis Intervention Center - A 42-day emergency resource for children whose homes and families suddenly become unsafe or unsatisfactory under crisis conditions. Emphasis is placed upon resolving the family crisis, or, early removal of the child to another resource, while affording superior custodial care under rigidly controlled circumstances.

Generalized Care - A more traditional form of care, training and direction for boys and girls of all ages whose needs may not be met by any other Village program.

Village People . . .

Places and Programs are critical to the mission of The Baptist Children's Village, but worthless apart from the most important part of our ministry - PEOPLE.

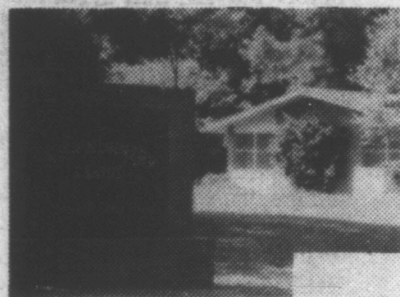
People - our staff. Seventy trained and committed Christian men and women who have immersed their lives, sometimes at great personal sacrifice, in the practical application of Christian principles to the home and family. Houseparents, social workers, secretaries, administrators, maintenance personnel, ministers, recreation supervisors, psychologists and therapists, supported by public education, local "church homes" and medical professionals work as a team as The Village provides custodial care in places and with programs selected to meet individual needs.

People - the children. Mississippi boys and girls of all ages from that special group of human beings to whom Jesus directed so much attention. Neglected, dependent, abandoned, abused, battered children and those who have lost confidence in themselves, in their parent-figures, their homes and their futures. Disturbed adolescents and those who cannot relate to a private home in the public community to an acceptable degree. In substantial measure, they are young people who must have the compassionate concern which only Christian people, serving in the voluntary sector can afford, if their lives are to have any meaning or direction.

People - Mississippi Baptists and friends of children. The Baptist Children's Village is a purely private and not-for-profit ministry. We neither seek nor accept funding from government at any level. We assess no fees or tuition. We exist on the contributions of Mississippi Baptist Churches and individual friends. Our endowment funds are so modest as to be almost meaningless and our allocation of Cooperative Program funds, while generous, amounts to no more than 18% of our minimum needs. For operating monies and debt retirement, we must depend upon the contributed dollar.



Above: New Albany Group Home



Left: India Nunnery Campus

Below: Reedy Acres



Below: Dickerson Place Campus



Left: Farrow Manor Campus



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MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING

Christian Home
Week...
MAY 6-13, 1984

Be faithful through works

By Robert Earl Shirley, pastor, Parkway, Tupelo
James 1:22-27; 2:14-24

In our Scripture lesson last week, James admonished his readers to be quick to hear. Hearing, however, is not enough, so he discussed at length the difference between real commitment and that which is superficial. With all of our various theologies and denominational emphases, we can understand the confusion that existed in the days of the apostles. If salvation comes through faith, are works necessary? As one expresses his love for God, what is to be his relationship to mankind? These questions continue to bother many today.

Pure versus vain religion (1:22-27). James urged one to become a doer of the word and not be merely a hearer. To illustrate the point, he pictured a man looking at himself in a mirror. These were rare in those days and as one would make use of one only infrequently, he would soon forget what he had seen and what kind of person he was.

In like manner, there are those who see themselves and their need as they read the Bible or listen to a sermon, but after they close their Bible or leave their church, they quickly forget what they have read or heard and continue on as before.

We shall talk more about the tongue next week, but please notice the words, "seem to be," in regard to one's religion. My pastor during my childhood days once told me that if someone explained to me how smart he was, not to take his advice, and if

he bragged to me how good he was, not to lend him any money. James is not speaking of the out and out hypocrite here but of the person who is guilty of self-delusion.

If we are concerned about the quality and reality of our faith, there is a simple and effective test that we can use. True faith will produce right living. Pure religion expresses itself in two ways. Outwardly, it sees to the needs of those in distress, and inwardly, it results in a life that is clean and unspotted. The reference to orphans and widows is not to limit such activity but to show the practical nature of our Christian service. Southern Baptists today as a Convention and as individuals are certainly in God's will as they seek to minister to all of the needs of all mankind throughout the world.

Faith versus works (2:14-24): Religion that is only verbal is worthless. Even if a person keeps on saying that he has faith but does not put that faith to work, he has missed the mark. That kind of faith will not save him nor will it bless mankind. Mere words fall short in the area of social service. One whose stomach is empty and who has insufficient clothes may be encouraged by our fine words, but will still be hungry and cold unless we provide for his needs.

When the biblical writers like Paul and James stressed either faith or works with a lesser emphasis being given to the other, there was no real conflict between them. The two go

hand in hand, for there is no real faith apart from works. Faith that is inactive is dead and of no real value. But one will say, "Oh, I believe in God." That is fine, but such a one is doing no more than the devils who also believe and tremble as a result. Unfortunately, they continue to be devils.

Again, faith involves morality as one is to keep himself unspotted from the world. If one is free from the Law and is saved by grace, not of works, why can he not behave as he pleases? The answer is that he is saved by faith, and true faith responds to God's revelation of himself to mankind. God both desires and commands that we live pure lives, and the new nature that we receive when we submit our lives to Christ creates in us a desire to be like him.

Much of the unhappiness in the world today is the result of our trying to live our way in God's world. When we learn to exercise our freedom in the realm of God's love, we will find the happiness that we are seeking.

It is interesting that both Paul and James used the actions of the beloved Abraham to illustrate true faith. Both saw such faith as a response of the individual to the revelation of God. Even when the command of God to the patriarch to sacrifice his son on an altar seemed cruel and a frustration of plans previously made, Abraham obeyed God. In like manner, it is by our works today that we are "justified" or "shown to be righteous."

Families nurturing faith

By Gerald Buckley, pastor, Parkway, Natchez
Deuteronomy 6:6-7; Luke 2:21-52

A familiar scene is witnessed each week in church parking lots all across the state of Mississippi. Mom or Dad drives up and empties the car of the children at Sunday School time. The parent driver then returns home to read the newspaper, mow the lawn, or just relax around the house. After church is over, the parent drives back to the parking lot to pick up the children. Churches are thankful to have these children on Sunday morning. However, parents are communicating to their children that Bible study is mainly for children. It will not be long before most of the youngsters begin to draw back. If Mother and Father do not need Bible study, the child will soon conclude that he or she does not need Bible study.

God's plan is that the family be the primary transmitter of faith in God. The two passages of scripture we work with for this study point to the role families have in nurturing faith. No parent can exercise faith for a young child, but the family does have the responsibility to encourage the development of faith in children.

I. Teach them diligently (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)

The people were instructed to keep God's commands upon their hearts. The heart was the center of thinking and the place from which the will was exercised. Sometimes we shove God's commands to one side. The Bible reminds us that God gave commandments he expects his people to obey. To disregard them is perilous.

Verse 7 says: "impress them on your children." Parents must do more than obey God. They must also teach their children the same type of obedience. The parents are to teach God's commands. The Hebrew home was a place of religious instruction. The parents, especially the fathers, considered it their duty to instruct their children about God and his laws.

Few homes in 1984 provide much in the way of religious instruction for their children. There is so much a perceptive parent can do. We can begin by helping our children develop an early reverence for God. Teach them also an early value for the scriptures. Let them know that the Bible is the Word of God, and that it is the best book in the world. Teach them that if it were not for the discoveries, instructions, and promises contained in it, they would be ignorant and wretched beyond imagination. Lead your children at an early age to appreciate prayer. Grace before meals, a quiet moment at bedtime, lifting a sick friend or relative are all choice times to teach the value of prayer.

plow again to plant a new crop (13). What was lost is recovered and God's people are firmly established never to be displaced again (14-15). As if to place an exclamation point Amos concludes with "God said it"! God's character is the judgment of those who rebel and the hope of those who trust and follow him.

II. The value of religious ritual (Luke 2:21-24)

We can teach by example. Luke, in talking about Jesus' religious development, tells us that Mary and Joseph taught by example. From the days of Jesus' infancy through his adolescent years, Mary and Joseph were faithful in their own religious devotions. They demonstrated in their own lives the importance they attached to a walk of faith.

Example is so crucial for children. I love the story of the mother who took her young son to the zoo. The boy walked up to a cage and said, "Mother, what are these?" The mother replied, "Son, those are wildcats." The little boy gazed into the cage for a moment and said, "Mother why are they wildcats?" The mother quickly replied, "Because their mommas and poppas were wildcats."

Parents, workers with children, and families communicate volumes with their lives.

Speaking is another important method. Moses told the people to speak of the commandments at home, walking along the road, sitting down, or rising up (Deuteronomy 6:7). Our children are tremendously influenced by what they hear parents say. Conversations during meals are opportunities to sow vital seeds. Children will be affected for a lifetime by the conversations of their parents.

Another method is ritual. Mary and Joseph had Jesus circumcised on the eighth day after his birth. There are values in traditions and observances. Mary and Joseph had the right desire that Jesus be linked with all the rich inheritance of Israel.

Our church has conducted a parent-child dedication service for the past several years. It has become a positive influence for many of our people. Parents are given an opportunity to express thanks to God for the gift of a child. They also acknowledge their responsibility to rear that child in a way pleasing to God.

Bible Book

"A new beginning"

By Bill Causey, pastor, Parkway, Jackson
Amos 8:4-9:15

Amos, with a sound of absolute finality, declares the decision of God to the people of the Northern Kingdom, Israel. His charge continues to be injustice against the poor, and he announces it will bring certain judgment.

I. Social injustice brings God's judgment (8:1-14)

Amos' description of the people (4-6) decries the grasping, materialistic attitude of those who prosper through dishonesty and a lust for money. They feel holy days (new moons, sabbaths) are a waste of time. Worship only means closing the markets where they cheat the poor by false scales. It amounts to buying and selling human beings (6), to cheat them of their very livelihood. There is deep moral and spiritual significance when money and things become more important than people, and God is sure to judge it.

God will not overlook it (7) but will send a catastrophe upon the land. The description is of an earthquake, where the normally stable land will rise and fall like water (the Nile, 8). The expected tragedy takes on cosmic proportions (9) extending far beyond the moment. "In that day" carries with it the ominous signal even of the future and the end of all things. The result of it all will be a

time of unparalleled grief as when grieving for an only son. The death of the son would be the end of a family's continuity through the bloodline (10) and the bitterness of it will continue.

Since they reject God's word and continue their injustice, God will see that the time will come when they will be hungry for the word (11). They will search for his word the length and breadth of the land but will not find it (12). The youth (13) will faint for thirst for the word of God. The day of false gods ("guilt, or Ashimah of Samaria," and "Dan" and the "way of Beersheba") has finally come home to roost. The guilty will fall and the fall will be final (14).

II. The vision of the destruction of Israel (9:1-10)

Amos says he "saw the Lord" beside an altar. God is there to express his sentence of judgment. The place of worship from the tops of its columns (capitals) to the foundation (thresholds) will fall upon the heads and no one will escape (1). There will be no place to hide from God. Not heaven or hell (2). Not on the top of the mountain (Carmel) or the floor of the sea (3). Not even in a foreign land as captives (4a). God's judgment will relentlessly follow wherever they go. He will punish (4b).

He declares they are dealing with

the Creator God they have forgotten. The impact is: "let me introduce you to him again—'The Lord is his name'" (5-6). Amos has used this language with biting sarcasm before in 4:12-13; 5:8; 5:27.

God says that Israel is like a stranger to him (as Ethiopia) even though he is the same God who brought them up from Egypt and controls the destinies of all the nations (7).

III. Yet there is hope (9:8-15)

"Behold" (8) signifies some newly introduced feature. God's eyes penetrate "the" sinful Kingdom, Israel, and will destroy it; however, a remnant will be left (8). The judgment will be a sifting of the good from the bad as seen in the figure of the sifting of kernels of wheat (9). The ones who reside in false safety saying "the calamity will not come upon us" will be destroyed (10).

"In that day" once again causes us to see in Israel's calamity and later restoration, the final judgment of the world, when the unrighteous are judged and God's people will become a kingdom including all the nations (see Acts 15:13-18) of the earth (11-12). After that, God's intended prosperity for his people will become a reality. Harvest time, because of his abundance, will last until it is time to

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